



Arlington Human Rights Commission Minutes

Date: *October 23, 2019*

Time: *8:00 pm*

Location: Arlington Senior Center, 27 Maple Street 2nd Floor HHS Conference Room

Attendance: Commissioners Horowitz, Minton, Rogers, Pusey, Carlton-Grayson, Baron, DiMeo, Carney, Fontanez, Co-Chair Grossman and Co-Chair Bauer via telephone
Intern Annika Lof

Guests: Lt. Brandon Kiernan (APD), Acting-Chief Julie Flaherty (APD),
Melanie Brown

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 8:00 pm by Co-Chair Grossman

1. Introductions
 - a. Commission Carlton-Grayson announced her resignation from the AHRC.
2. Minutes
 - a. The draft minutes of September 18, 2019, were reviewed. Commissioner DiMeo moved to accept the minutes as corrected. Commission Minton seconded the motion and the motion passed with three Commissioners abstaining (because they were not present for the meeting).
3. Co-Chairs Report
 - a. Co-Chair Grossman attended the Anti-Defamation League's Metro-North Advisory Committee's State of Hate Training. This is a regional hate crime training for law enforcement. Additional information will be provided before the next AHRC meeting.
 - b. The first rounds of interviews for the position of Coordinator of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion have been completed. The second round of interviews will be conducted in November.

- c. A volunteer will be needed to take over the responsibility of inputting and maintaining the data for the Incident Reports. A new email system will be implemented in the near future.
- d. Town Counsel, Douglas Heim will be attending the November meeting of the AHRC. The meeting will begin at 7 pm.

4. Review of Community Input

- a. Representatives from the group Arlington Fights Racism attended the September 18, 2019 meeting. They have created a website and have included information about the Arlington Human Rights Commission on the site. The Commission will not be commenting on or taking action regarding the content on the group's website. The group has asked the AHRC to review its charter and mission. It was discussed that a review of the AHRC by-laws should be conducted and a By-Law Review Working Group and discussion for the creation of the group will be placed on the agenda for the December 2019 meeting.

5. Working Group Reports

- a. The minutes of the regular August 2019 meeting will be reviewed for working group assignments.
- b. The Outreach Working group presented suggested responsibilities and parameters, a proposal of several events to be organized by the AHRC for 2019-2020. Commissioner Carlton-Grayson moved to accept the report of the Outreach Working Group, Commissioner Horowitz seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
- c. Commissioner DiMeo presented the proposal of events. Commissioner Carney made a motion for the AHRC to move forward with the planning of the Immigrant/Refugee event with a budget of \$300. Commissioner Fontanez seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
- d. Commissioner Horowitz moved to table the discussion of the remaining proposed events; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Carney and passed. Communications Working Group: Commissioner Carlton-Grayson reported she will work with the interns with regards to the mailing and other communication methods used by the AHRC.
- e. Schools and Educational Trainings reported.

6. Budget

- a. Commissioner Fontanez reported on the budget and she will follow up with Laura Munsey and Christine Bongiorno for an update on the balance of funds.
- b. A request for the Diversity Inclusion Group was received asking the AHRC to provide sponsorship for an upcoming DIG event. A motion was made by Commissioner Carlton-Grayson to support the event by providing funding up to \$100.00, Commissioner Horowitz seconded the motion. Commissioner Fontanez amended the motion to include the AHRC would be a co-sponsor of the event, Commissioner Baron seconded the amended motion and the motion passed unanimously.

7. Incidents/Response

- a. Co-Chair Grossman reported on incidents of graffiti at the Ottoson Middle School. The AHRC was also provided a copy of a petition sent to Superintendent Bodie in response to the ongoing issues of hate graffiti in the schools.

8. APD Update

- a. Acting-Chief Flaherty (APD) reported an update on the arson case. Lt. Kiernan updated the Commission on the anti-bias and cultural competency training the APD has been and will be participating in.

Motion to adjourn was made at 10:01 pm by Commissioner Carney, seconded by Commissioner Horowitz, and approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:01pm.